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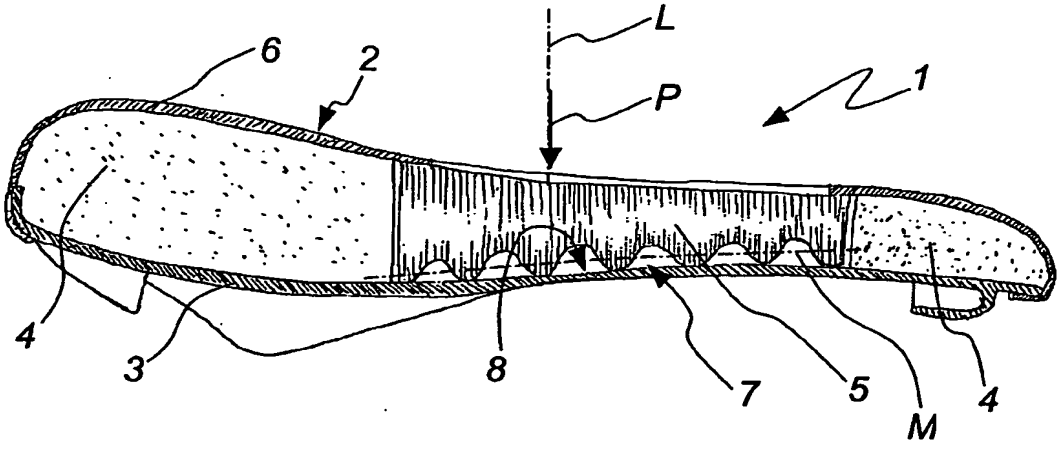
(54) Title: VISCOELASTIC SUPPORT STRUCTURE WITH IMPROVED ENERGY ABSORPTION PROPERTIES



(57) Abstract: A viscoelastic support structure having improved energy absorption properties, comprising a rigid or semirigid frame (3), at least one layer (4) made of a resilient filler, a flexible covering (6) having a surface of contact (2) with the user, at least one gel insert (5) interposed between the covering (6) and the frame (3) to interact therewith when the user exerts a stress thereon. On the insert (5) and/or the frame (3) and/or the covering (6), the structure (1) has a plurality of protuberances (9) and recesses (10) with respect to a mid-surface (M) adapted to facilitate the deformation of the insert (5), in a direction transverse to the stress direction (L) and/or essentially parallel to the mid-surface (M), to increase the energy that the insert (5) is able to dissipate.

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